Fountain El Paso Co. Colorado 1/3/73

Wm. Brewster Esq

Dear Sir

Your letters of the 12th & 24th ultimo have only just been received from Chicago. I have not been able to get my specimens printed so am obliged to send a list of numbers from the Smithsonian Catalogue. Birds on your list which I want are Tetrao canadensis, Oporornis agilis Empidonax traillii, E. flaviventris Sophophanes bicolor. A pair of each in the spring plumage if possible I have recd from different p[illegible] so called specimens of O. agilis in fall plumage which I consider only Geo. philadelphia. I have underlined on my list birds which I will exchange, specimen for specimen. Should like to

per a full list of your duplicates.
When I sent my adv. to the Am.
Nat. I expected to spend the
winter in Chicago —

Very Respectfully
Charles E. Aiken
Fountain Col. T.

Aiken C. E.
No 19

Colorado Springs May 29, 74

Mr. Wm. Brewster
My Dear Sir
Your favor of the 18th inst. a week since, but I have not had an opportunity to reply until now. I am Academia obliged for the photo which I hold in high Esteem

Yours very Truly
Lina E. Tucker

Return P.O.
May 25-74

Colorado Springs Oct 2d 1877 –

My dear Mr. Brewster.

Your letter of July 29th came during my absence from town and I have been so busy since my return that I have neglected answering much longer than I ought –

I have not been able to do any collecting to speak of this year, while I have disposed of a considerable number of specimens collected here during previous years so that my stock of duplicates as large as it has been however of most western birds I have a fair supply and unless you have already found another outlet for your Eastern skins I shall be happy to make an exchange with you. My stock of Coast birds is badly broken into and I should like to replenish with skins of the quality which I am sure you can furnish. I should be pleased to receive from you skins of the following on even exchange viz

Wilsonia pusilla	Icterus bullocki	Mimus polyglottus	Melospiza fallax	Podilymbus podiceps	Ardea herodias	Geococcyx californianus	Colaptes auratus	Sphyrapicus ruber	Empidonax difficilis	Empidonax hammondii	Empidonax wrightii	Empidonax minimus	Contopus borealis	Sayornis nigricans	Myiarchus cinerascens	Tyrannus verticalis	Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides	Vireo gilvus	Vireo huttoni	Vermivora celata	Dendroica auduboni	Dendroica nigrescens	Dendroica townsendi
730.	715.	711.	706.	702.	701.	700.	697.	696.	692.	688.	684.	683.	682.	668.	667.	666.	666.	628.	614.	613.	607.	606.	605.
Dendroica aestiva	Dendroica coronata	Dendroica maculosa	Dendroica virens	Dendroica occidentalis	Dendroica chrysoparia	Dendroica nigrescens	Dendroica townsendi	Dendroica auduboni	Dendroica aestiva	Dendroica coronata	Dendroica maculosa	Dendroica virens	Dendroica occidentalis	Dendroica chrysoparia	Helminthophaga celata	Helminthophaga ruficapilla	Helminthophaga lutescens	Helminthophaga virginiae	Helminthophaga pinus	Mniotilta varia	Parula americana	Geothlypis trichas	Icteria virens
602.	596.	557.	552.	553.	545.	546.	548.	536.	535.														

Calidris arenaria Tringa bairdii Tringa maculata Tringa minutilla Strepsilas interpres Regulus calendula Agiaiocharis polyglottus Chaetura pelagica Cyanocitta florida Coccyzus erythrophthalmus
534. 533. 526. 528. 515. 508. 507 453. 439. 429.
Chaetura pelagica Buteo lineatus Falco sparverius
109. 27. 5. I do not care for any but full plumaged specimens of these, not more than two of a kind. I should also like a skin of Vasserculus princeps if you have any to spare, and any sea birds which are not given in my catalogue. The prices in my catalogue to form the basis of the exchange so far as they go.

You can select from my catalogue such specimens as you are in need of and I will supply them so far as I am able. I can see you have several skins of Buteo Calurus in the young plumage, but with the exception of these and some of Sparrow & Marsh Hawks I have none of the falconidae that I should like to exchange. As you say you desire mainly the commoner birds of Colorado I presume I shall have no difficulty in sending what you select. I will send you by this mail the only delicate pair of Leucosticte atro-nasa I have remaining, as you request me to reserve you the specimen. You can have the pair for $9 cash or I will put them in on the exchange at $15.00

Aiken Chas. E.
Oct. 2-1877

For 29 eggs I can furnish on exchange (at 20¢ per egg)
Pet. spinus 414a. Yellow warbler 589. Brus can. 479. Brus canicanus 478. (100) Actitus bartramius 545 (25¢) Seiurus motacilla 447. Lanius borealis 45 (25¢) Colaptes mut. 98 (20¢) Hylocichla mustelina 126. Hilocichla fuscescens 128 (several fine sets with nests.) Icterus Baltimore 416. Carpodacus purpureus 390. Cyanos. cyanea 386. Chondestes grammacus 344 (several sets with nests 15¢) Vireo belli 246. (several perfect sets with nests. 25¢) Icterus longicauda 177. D. pennsylvanica 260. Zonotrichia querula (15¢) 279. Spinus pinus 255 (perfect with nests 15¢)

I can furnish out of most of the rarer western eggs priced in the catalogue. I think we may be able to make an exchange satisfactory enough to make it worth while to pay express charges. but do not ship any specimens until hearing from me again.

Do you hear any thing from our friends Henshaw?

Yours truly
Chas E. Aiken

Colorado Springs Oct. 19. 1877

My dear Mr Brewster.

I have selected and packed for you the nearly all of the birds you request in your letter of the 11th inst. the list of which I enclose as also the list of my desiderata.

I have been obliged to send a few skins which you will not regard as first class perhaps and some in autumnal plumage, but they are sent subject to your approval and I desire that you shall return them if you are not satisfied with them and willing to give the adult spring plumaged specimens in return. I have added two or three skins of the finches in order to complete the series.

I should like to have you retain for the present the skins which you are to send as an equivalent for my invoice, as I expect to make one or two exchanges with parties in your vicinity, in which case I shall have the several lots collected at one point and all shipped through together. Please notify me of the receipt of my box, and let me know what I may expect from you in return.

Yours truly

Chas E Aiken

P.S. Note. The birds were packed at date of writing but I delayed sending to make some additions which I have not had time to attend to. &c &c.

Aiken C. E.
Oct-14-77

List of Skins Sent you.

1.	Turdus fuscescens	$ .25
2.	A. wobelhouseii	1.50
2.	Leucosticte tephr.	1.30
2.	Pipilo var crissalis	2.00
2	Myiadestes townsendi	1.50
2	Calamospiza bicolor	1.50
2	Junco dikeni	1.00
2	" dorsalis	1.50
2	" caniceps	.80
2	Plec. mccowni	1.50
1	Pyranga hepatica	2.00
1	Carpodacus cassini	.50
2	Sitta aculeata	.70
2	" pygmaea	.70
2	Parus montanus	1.00
2	Vireo plumbeus	1.00
2	Empid obscurus	1.50
2	" hammondi	.80
2	Psaltriparus plumbeus	1.00
1	Cinclus mexicanus	1.00
2	Blk thr Gr Warbler	2.00
1	Sialia arctica	1.00
2	Setophaga picta	4.00
2	Lolph. wollweberi	1.50
2	Bonas. gracilis	3.00
45 Skins	Amounting to	$ 34.55

Skins desired in exchange

Podiceps cornuta	2 @	$ 1.50
Sterna paradisea	2 @	.75
Rynchops nigra	2 "	2.00
Chaetura pelagica	2 "	.25
Cyanocitta floridana	2 "	
Chaun. passerina	2 "	.70
Aegialitis semipal	2 "	.50
Do melodius	1 "	.50
Emetes petrificatus	2 "	.25
Sitta pusilla	3 "	.50
Ammodromus Mart.	1 "	.50
Tringa maritima	1 "	1.00
Calidris arenaria	2 "	.50
Rallus crepitans	1 "	1.50
Plotus anhinga	1 "	3.00
Dendroica americana	1 "	2.00
Do velvetina	1 "	2.50
Do perspicillata	1 "	2.00
Parus marinus	1 "	3.00
" atricillus	1 "	2.00
Buteo pennsylvanicus	1 "	2.50

I especially desire the following which you did not offer in your list.

2 Chroicocephalus atricilla ver. ad	@	1.50
2 Do philadelphia " "	"	1.50
2 Tringa Bonapartii	"	.50
2 Microhalama minutilla	"	1.00
2 Picoides arcticus	"	1.00
2 Sterna caspia ad. Spring	"	2.00
2 " regia " "	"	2.00

Colorado Springs Dec 9. 1877

My Dear Mr Brewster:

Your letter of the 3d inst came last evening. If your specimen of Pas princeps is a male I will take it in exchange for one of the L. atrarosea though I think the latter the more valuable bird. If you would like some one any skins that I can furnish in addition to those already sent I will take 3 or 4 good specs each of Pams hudsonicus @ 40¢ Cistothorus stellaris @ 50¢ Lagopus albus @ $2.50 Corvus ossifragus @ $1.00 Tyrannus dominicensis @ $1.00 Trochilus colubris @ 50¢ & Canurus carolinensis @ $2.00

If you do not receive word from me to the contrary within a few days, or before you are ready to leave home, you may send my skins directly to me by express.

Can you not arrange to stop at Colorado Sp'gs either going to or returning from California?

We have some scenery here well worth seeing and some birds worth satisfying, and I should be delighted to see you.

Yours very truly

Chas. E. Aiken

Aitken C. E.
Dec. 9. 77

POSTAL CARD.

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

COLORADO SPRINGS
DEC. 13
COLO.

Mr Wm Webster
Cambridge
Mass.

Colorado Springs Dec 15. 77

You may send my lot of skins directly to me by express.

If you can send me the species I mentioned in my last letter or those previously desired which you have not laid aside, I will let you have —

1	Vireo vicinior	$5.00
1	Dend. occidentalis ♂	5.00
1	" " ♀	4.00
1	" townsendi ♂	3.00
1	" " ♀	2.50
1	Nutthornis pallescens	1.25
2	Phaenopepla nitens ♂♂	2.00

I would prefer other species in place of the Herring Gull.

Yours truly
Chas E Aiken

Lowell Institute
Cambridge Mass.

Colorado Springs Jan 3. 1878

Dear Mr. Brewster -

The box of skins came yesterday - I find everything as per your list except that there is one skin of T. minutilla in place of one of E. petrificatus, and that the skin of Buteo pennsylvanicus is wanting entirely - Owing to this omission I believe there is a bal of 95¢ in my favor. I had to pay $6.25 Express charges on the box, besides the postage upon your package, so that it proves rather an expensive exchange for me. I think you might have saved me at least three dollars by selecting a smaller and lighter box. If you have opportunities during the winter to obtain really fine skins of the balance of my desiderata you may do so for me, but I do not care for anything that you can not send by mail.

Very truly

Chas. E. Aiken

Aiken C. E.
Jan. 3-1878

— Office of —

Charles E. Aiken,

(Successor to Aiken & Hunt.)

Musical Merchandise and Sewing Machines.

Also, Proprietor of Aiken's Museum of Natural Curiosities.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Oct 22 188 7

My dear Mr. Fewster

In reply to your letter about the Coyote robe, one of the boys mentioned will secure nine or twelve skins, and $20.00 per skin would be as cheap as I could possibly make them up. I hardly think that would pay me for the best skins. This would be $24.00 for a robe 6X7 feet or $18.00 for one 5X7 feet not lined — My partner has been sick and unable to work, but will be well kept works. However I will write him in a week before I can anything about it. Perhaps you can do better in Boston. My brother has been at Santa Fe about a month. He has sent me a dozen Scouts tarantulas such as you have. He told me on Friday reported the capture of Roops band of Indians in Mexico. I have forgot

Colorado. One - a young in the medium plumage - was caught alive in the hands at the entrance to Red Rock Canon between Colorado City and Manitou. It was doubtless bred in that immediate vicinity - and I regard its discovery at this place a very interesting one. The other bird was found dead on the ground near the San Luis lakes near Mosca Pass in the San Luis Valley. This is precisely the same locality where my friend Dr. Walbridge shot one two years ago. The bird was found by friends who had seen the Doctor's specimen and sent it home for identification, last week. It was in perfect autumn plumage and had been dead so long that I could only make an indifferent skin. The bird may yet prove to be common in Colorado. It is probably very retiring & its habits and being so shunned, easily escape notice.

Yours very truly

C. E. Aiken

Aiken, C.E.
Oct. 25, 1882.

P.S. If you need me I can spare you 15 or 20 Colorado Hawks. I have also some Red tails from Texas that you can have for the

C. E. Aiken
Nov. 7, 1882

— Office of —

Charles E. Aiken,

(SUCCESSOR TO AIKEN & HUNT,)

Musical Merchandise AND Sewing Machines.

ALSO, PROPRIETOR OF AIKEN'S MUSEUM OF NATURAL CURIOSITIES.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Nov 7 188 2

A. ornis Frewstin

Dear Sir :- I wrote you by the Express Flamingoes without thinking of your publishing the notes, but I am quite willing to have you do so. I am sorry to say I can not claim either of the specimens whose capture I announced. The young hawk brought to me to be mounted, and nothing I offered would induce the captor to part with it. The other, from San Luis Valley is still in my possession and I do not know whether I can retain it or not. In the case of my own capture, as I think you are aware - the bird was caught upon the nest, and one newly laid egg secured with it. The egg was sold to the Smithsonian for $2.00 and the skin to Chaffrewstin for $30.00 I think the latter is now

in the Greene Smith collection.
Perhaps a similar price will secure one of the specimens taken this year as I did not go so high myself.
When the young bird was brought me I inquired carefully as to the locality and the next evening Nelson and I looked the ground over carefully, hoping to find others of the same brood, but we saw none.
The bird above mentioned was discovered at dusk sitting on a dead flaming twig under the group of cottonwoods which you may remember in the creek bottom half a mile west of Colorado City.
The discoverer walked up and siezed it alive in his hand. This locality is quite different from the one where my own capture was made which was on a rocky hillside covered with pines, and at an elevation of about 7500 or 8000 feet.
Mr. Nelson is still in Mexico.

Yours truly
C. E. Aiken.

HIGH CLASS TAXIDERMIST. MANUFACTURER OF FURS.

AIKEN'S MUSEUM,

ESTABLISHED 1877.

FINE FURS,
FUR RUGS,
GAME HEADS,
CURIOS,
NOVELTIES,
MEXICAN GOODS.

No. 2. E. Kiowa Street,
Cor. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colo., May 27 1904

Mr. Wm Brewster
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Mr Brewster:—

I am sending you by United States Express Co. a small box of bird skins for your inspection and opinion. The pifons screech owl is the only one I have seen from Colorado. My judgment inclines me to refer it to Aikeni, but I have seen very few pifons specimens from any locality and do not feel competent to pass upon it. The pattern of coloration appears similar to the gray specimens I send though the dark markings are fainter, and nearly lacking on the crown and back. I have wondered whether you have seen the loone screech owl in winter plumage and whether you would consider pale females like No 3530 as pure aikeni. M. a. maxwelliae must be quite rare in this vicinity as I have not had a specimen brought in for ten years.

I have put in 4 pale specimens of the yellow warbler to know whether they may be referable to sonorana. Yours very truly,
C. E. Aiken

One 8 is from Arizona you will notice.

Aiken - C.E.
May 27, 1904.

HIGH CLASS TAXIDERMIST. MANUFACTURER OF FURS.

AIKEN'S MUSEUM,

ESTABLISHED 1877.

FINE FURS,
FUR RUGS,
GAME HEADS,
CURIOS,
NOVELTIES,
MEXICAN GOODS.

No. 2. E. Kiowa Street,
Cor. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colo., March 1st 1905

Mr. William Brewster
Nuttall Ornithological Club
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I send to your address by Express last Thursday a package containing several Owlets, Prairie Chickens and skins of five screech owls — all from this locality.

One of the owls is in perfect flesh, and I send it with the others thinking you would be interested in seeing them, and because I wanted your opinion as to the identity of the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] started [illegible] from the [illegible] Eimeras [illegible] from [illegible] but [illegible]

HIGH CLASS TAXIDERMIST. MANUFACTURER OF FURS.

AIKEN'S MUSEUM,

ESTABLISHED 1877.

FINE FURS,
FUR RUGS,
GAME HEADS,
CURIOS,
NOVELTIES,
MEXICAN GOODS.

No. 2. E. Kiowa Street,
Cor. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colo., _____ 190

[illegible]

Aiken — C.E.
March 1, 1905.

HIGH CLASS TAXIDERMIST. MANUFACTURER OF FURS.

AIKEN'S MUSEUM,

ESTABLISHED 1877.

FINE FURS,
FUR RUGS,
GAME HEADS,
CURIOS,
NOVELTIES,
MEXICAN GOODS.

No. 2. E. Kiowa Street,
Cor. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colo., March 21st 1905

Mr. Brewster

I have taken much pleasure in going over the specimens you returned to me with your letter in hand.

Our yellow warblers vary a good deal as to the amount of greenish above, and breadth of streaks below. I have noticed none with as broad streaks as broad as in Eastern specimens, and I think most breeding birds are of an intermediate character. Narrow streaked males with gray females like the examples you examined are common migrants and no doubt breed but I have no specimens taken later than June 1st. Some females are as highly colored as in typical aestiva but I think most of these, with the broadest streaked males breed farther north.

A Bewick wren in the ~~red~~ "mottled" phase returned to me by Mr. Cooke, has been taken at Vueng Lolo, and no doubt the eastern form regularly brought western species into that state. I have made some efforts to obtain Bewick wrens from East of the mountains but without success. A...

Aiken – C.E.
Mar 22. 1905.

HIGH CLASS TAXIDERMIST. MANUFACTURER OF FURS.

AIKEN'S MUSEUM,

ESTABLISHED 1877.

FINE FURS,
FUR RUGS,
GAME HEADS,
CURIOS,
NOVELTIES,
MEXICAN GOODS.

No. 2. E. Kiowa Street,
Cor. Cascade Ave.

Colorado Springs, Colo., _____ 190

seems to be restricted to the region
foot hills, and I doubt if it reaches
out onto the plains. Winter specimens
like those submitted to you have a soft
gray, or ~~fulvous~~ buffy gray appearance that is
not apparent in summer birds, and I
have felt doubtful if these were true aikeni.
Some like #3530 which you notice as
exceptional, appeared to me to grade
toward ~~mexicanus~~ mexicanus but so far as I
have observed birds of this character
were all females so I conclude it
to be a sexual peculiarity. By common
the birds are at least not easily obtained
and I see but few of them.

Thank you very much for determining
the specimens.

Yours truly

C. E. Aiken